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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Lim, et al.

Serial No.: 10/817,024

Filed: April 2, 2004

For: **Minimally Invasive Expanding Spacer and Method**

Attorney's Docket No.: PC674.02/4906-018

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450

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Patent Pending

Group Art Unit: 3732

Confirmation No.: 2786

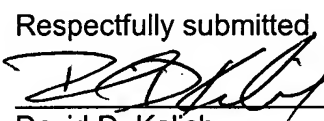
Raleigh, North Carolina
October 21, 2004

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

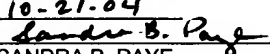
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.56, counsel submits a copy of the Information Disclosure Forms submitted in parent application 10/178,960. Inclusion herein of any particular item of information is not to be construed as an admission that same is prior art.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 18-1167.

Respectfully submitted,
By: 
David D. Kalish
Registration No. 42,706

Tel: (919) 854-1844
Fax: (919) 854-2084

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I Hereby Certify That This Document Is Being Deposited With The United States Postal Service On The Date Indicated As First Class Mail, Postage Prepaid, In An Envelope Addressed To: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner For Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Va. 22313-1450, on this Date 10-21-04
SIGNATURE: 
NAME: SANDRA B. PAYE



Sheet 1 of 1

FORM PTO-1449

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
IN AN APPLICATION PURSUANT TO
37 CFR §1.97 & 1.98**

Docket Number:	Serial Number:
4906-010	10/178,960
Applicant:	
Lim et al.	
Filing Date:	Group:
June 25, 2002	

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner					Filing Date		
Initial	Patent No.	Date	Name	Class	Subcl	If Approp.	
A	6,332,895	2001	Suddaby				
B	6,217,579	2001	Koros				
C	6,193,757	2001	Foley et al.				
D	6,190,414	2001	Young et al.				
E	6,183,517	2001	Suddaby				
F	6,179,873	2001	Zientek				
G	6,176,882	2001	Biedermann et al.				
H	6,174,334	2001	Suddaby				
I	6,126,689	2000	Brett				
J	6,102,950	2000	Vaccaro				
K	6,080,193	2000	Hochshuler et al.				
L	6,045,579	2000	Hochshuler et al.				
M	6,039,761	2000	Li et al.				
N	5,888,224	1999	Beckers et al.				
O	5,782,832	1998	Larsen et al.				
P	5,665,122	1997	Kambin				
Q	5,658,335	1997	Allen				
R	5,390,683	1995	Pisharodi				
S	5,171,278	1992	Pisharodi				

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

					Translation			
Patent No.	Date	Name	Class	Subcl	Yes	No		

OTHER DOCUMENTS (including author, title, date, pages, etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609. Draw line through citation not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

**FORM PTO-1449****INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
IN AN APPLICATION PURSUANT TO
37 CFR §1.97 & 1.98**

Docket Number:	Serial Number:
4906-010	10/178,960
Applicant:	
Lim, et al.	
Filing Date:	Group:
June 25, 2002	3731

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner					Filing Date		
Initial		Patent No.	Date	Name	Class	Subcl	If Approp.
	A	6,582,451	2003	Marucci et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

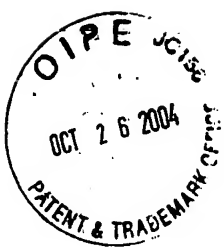
					Translation		
	Patent No.	Date	Name	Class	Subcl	Yes	No

OTHER DOCUMENTS (including author, title, date, pages, etc.)

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FORM PTO-1449

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
IN AN APPLICATION PURSUANT TO
37 CFR §1.97 & 1.98**

Docket Number:	Serial Number:
4906-010	10/178,960
Applicant:	
Lim, et al.	
Filing Date:	Group:
June 25, 2002	3731

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

				Filing Date		
Examiner Initial	Patent No.	Date	Name	Class	Subcl	If Approp.
A	5,235,966	1993	Jamner			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

				Translation			
	Patent No.	Date	Name	Class	Subcl	Yes	No
B	WO 95/25485	1995	Russegger				
C	WO 01/41652	2001	Schläpfer, et al.				
D	DE 200 04 812 U1	2000	Knop, et al.				
E	EP 0 676 176 A1	1995	Slotman, et al.				

OTHER DOCUMENTS (including author, title, date, pages, etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Lim, et al.

Serial No. 10/178,960

Filed: June 25, 2002

For: **MINIMALLY INVASIVE EXPANDING
SPACER AND METHOD**

Attorney's Docket No. 4906-010



Examiner TBA
Group Art Unit 3731

Raleigh, North Carolina
March 29, 2004

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement

Sir:


Attached hereto is an information disclosure statement (PTO-1449). Document DE 200 04 812 U1 is written in German and we could not find a translation. Therefore, the supplied translated abstract was obtained at www.freetranslation.com and is accurate to the best of our knowledge.

This IDS is being submitted before any action on the merits. As such, no fee is required. However, if fees are required, please deduct from our Deposit Account No. 18-1167.

Respectfully submitted,

COATS AND BENNETT, PLLC

By:


David D. Kalish
Registration No. 42,706

Telephone: (919) 854-1844

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS DOCUMENT IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE ON THE DATE INDICATED AS FIRST CLASS MAIL, POSTAGE PREPAID, IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO **MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450.**

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Lim, et al.

Serial No. 10/178,960

Filed: June 25, 2002

For: **MINIMALLY INVASIVE EXPANDING
SPACER AND METHOD**

Attorney's Docket No. 4906-010



Examiner TBA
Group Art Unit 3731

Raleigh, North Carolina
December 31, 2003

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement

Sir:

Attached hereto is an information disclosure statement (PTO-1449). This IDS is being submitted before any action on the merits. As such, no fee is required. However, if fees are required, please deduct from our Deposit Account No. 18-1167.

Respectfully submitted,

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SIGNATURE:  _____

DATE: 12-31-03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Lim, et al.

Serial No. 10/178,960

Filed: June 25, 2002

For: **MINIMALLY INVASIVE EXPANDING
SPACER AND METHOD**

Attorney's Docket No. 4906-010



Examiner TBA
Group Art Unit TBA

Raleigh, North Carolina
October 8, 2002

Commissioner for Patents
Box Patent Applications
Washington, D.C. 20231

Information Disclosure Statement

Sir:

Attached hereto is an information disclosure statement (PTO-1449). This IDS is being submitted before any action on the merits. As such, no fee is required. However, if fees are required, please deduct from our Deposit Account No. 18-1167.

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DATE: 10-8-02